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Littlehampton Urban District

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1959



BY

FRANK COCKCROFT
M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

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LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Manor House,
Littlehampton.

May, 1960.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1959.

The population continues to rise slowly. There was an estimated increase of 100, although the births exceeded the deaths by only 21. It is good to record that there were only three infant deaths out of 238 births. The only disturbing feature in the statistics is the cancer death rate, which has increased considerably. The increase from 38 to 52 deaths was mostly accounted for by an increase in deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus. This should certainly be a warning to heavy smokers in the town. I am firmly of the opinion that heavy smoking is a contributory factor in causing this type of cancer, quite apart from other damage to the respiratory system which it frequently causes.

It has long been realised that bad housing and bad health very often go together. Bad housing does not only mean structurally. Everyone appreciates that a house with inadequate ventilation or lighting and with excessive dampness in the walls is liable to be injurious to health. Over-crowding is easy to appreciate, but people are badly housed if they are suffering mental stress due to particular circumstances relating to their house or home conditions. It is most desirable to alleviate these circumstances in order to help stop the ever-increasing number of people who visit psychiatrists. I should like to see more owners taking advantage of the Standard Grant and providing their houses with all the facilities for which they can obtain a grant and which they are lacking. It is probable that one house in five in the town is without a fixed bath. Only a small percentage of houses have got domestic refrigerators. Both these facilities should be present in a modern house, but only the bath can be obtained with the help of a grant.

It is sad that so many users of the beach leave behind so much of their refuse. The greatest menace is bottles, particularly if smashed. Broken glass hidden in the sand is the biggest danger to health on the beaches. It is a bigger risk than the sewage which goes out to sea, although it is a very undesirable practice to discharge crude sewage from seaside resorts. It is some measure of relief that the Medical Research Council could find no association between sea bathing and any illness which one might expect could be contracted from sewage contaminated sea water.

There was also trouble from refuse deposited in hedges and ditches by campers. Camping is a necessary part of holiday life, but in town areas campers require similar facilities to those found on caravan sites. They require adequate water, toilet accommodation and means of refuse disposal.

Leptospires were found in the kidneys of some rats sent away for investigation. These rats could infect dogs or man. There have been cases of jaundice in dogs believed to be due to leptospirosis, but I have no knowledge of any human infection. Here, then, is another good reason for attacking the rodent problem even if there were not enough already.

One of the important things which came to light during the year was the need for more detailed inspection and closer supervision of food premises. It is of paramount importance that food hygiene should be at

its highest level in a seaside town which has thousands of visitors every summer. In appointing Mr. Millward, who has made a speciality of food hygiene, the Council will find the standard of hygiene considerably raised. The co-operation of the public and caterers is, of course, essential. I agree with those who consider fouling of pavements, grass and verges with dogs' excreta is disgraceful and obviously an attraction for flies. In my opinion, no dog should be taken into food premises and dogs not on a lead should not be allowed in the shopping area of the town.

The Health Department was considerably upset during the year due to the suspension and subsequent resignation of Mr. J. L. McGarry, who had been with the Council since 1930. During this period and until Mr. Millward commenced duties, a matter of four months, Mr. Rossiter, the Deputy Chief Inspector of Worthing Rural District, spent half his time working for Littlehampton and made sure no essential work was left undone. He was ably assisted by the Pupil Inspector, Mr. Leal.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their understanding and encouragement during this difficult year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
FRANK COCKCROFT,
Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Littlehampton Urban District Council.

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres), 2,915.

Resident Population (1959), estimated by Registrar General, 15,150.

Population (1951) Census, 13,948.

Rateable Value (1959), £279,752.

Sum represented by 1d. Rate, £1,130.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1959 according to Rate Book, 4,895.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births	TOTAL	M.	F.	
Legitimate	225	115	110	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated
Illegitimate	13	7	6	resident population 15.7.
				Corrected Rate, 16.3.
Stillbirths	...	2	1	1—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 8.3.
Deaths	...	217	107	110—Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 14.3.
				Corrected Rate, 12.6.

Infant deaths, 3.

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total 12.6.

“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ —legitimate 13.3.

“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ —illegitimate 0.0.

Neo Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 4.2.
(first four weeks).

Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births, 5.5 per cent.

Maternal deaths (including abortion), Nil.

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births, Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 52.

Comparative Statistics, 1959

	England and Wales	West Sussex	Littlehampton	
		Urban	Rural	U.D.
Birth Rate	... ...	16.5	14.9	13.9
Death Rate	... ...	11.6	14.6	13.7
Infantile Death Rate	...	22.0	16.5	17.3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis				
Death Rate	... ...	0.08	0.06	0.07
Cancer Death Rate	...	2.1	2.7	2.6
Maternal Mortality Rate	per 1,000 births	0.38	0.28	0.47
				0.0

Comparative Statistics, 1901—1959

	1901	1910	1920	1925	1935	1945	1955	1959
Population	7,363	8,376	8,593	9,020	10,178	10,890	14,760	15,150
Birth Rate	20.9	19.6	20.1	14.8	13.2	19.3	15.9	15.7
Death Rate	13.7	12.2	11.7	11.3	12.1	17.5	11.8	14.3
Infantile Mortality								
Rate ...	143	81	52	59	63	33	21	12.6
No. Inhab- ited								
Houses	1,504	1,806	1,806	1,785	3,308	3,480	4,264	4,895
Average No. of persons per house	4.9	4.6	4.7	5.1	3.1	3.1	3.5	3.1

DEATHS, AGE GROUPS—1959

Age.	Deaths.		Age.	Deaths.		
	M.	F.		M.	F.	
Under 1 year ...	1	2	35—44 years	...	2	-
1—2 years ...	2	-	45—54,,	...	4	4
3—4,,	...	-	55—59,,	...	7	4
5—9,,	...	-	60—64,,	...	17	3
10—14,,	...	-	65—69,,	...	17	12
15—19,,	...	1	70—79,,	...	32	40
20—24,,	...	-	80—89,,	...	19	39
25—34,,	...	2	90—99,,	...	3	6
			100 years and over ...	-	-	-

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1959

	Male.	Female.	Total. Male & Female.
Total: All causes ...	107	110	217
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus ...	12	2	14
Other forms of Cancer ...	15	23	38
Heart Disease ...	31	31	62
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	11	22	33
Pneumonia and Bronchitis ...	11	7	18

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
COUNCILLOR MISS McDONALD.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :

FRANK COCKCROFT, M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :

MR. J. L. McGARRY, C.R.S.H., M.S.I.A. (Resigned, 31.8.59)
MR. S. MILLWARD, C.S.I.B., F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (From 12.10.59)

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for the Worthing Rural District and Assistant County Medical Officer.

The Port Health District work is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

(a) Nursing.

Five General District Nurses, 2 Midwives, and 2 Health Visitors are employed in the area. Lists showing their names and addresses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls or Offices of local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinics are held as follows:—

Maternity and Child

Welfare	... ...	Littlehampton Health Centre.	Mondays and Thursdays 2.30 p.m. (Weekly).
Ante Natal and Post Natal	... ...	ditto	Tuesdays 10 a.m. (Fortnightly).

The following figures have been provided by the County Medical Officer showing the attendances at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

No. of Women attending.	ANTE NATAL Total attendances.	POST NATAL	
		No. of Women attending.	Total attendances.
175	529	62	7
CHILD WELFARE.			
No. of Children attending.		Total attendances. 4,149	
492			

A Birth Control Clinic is provided by the County Council at Shoreham Health Centre and the Family Planning Association operates one at the Health Centre at Bognor Regis.

(c) *School Clinics.*

Minor Ailments	}	Littlehampton Health Centre.
Eye	...	...
Orthopædic	...	...
Physiotherapy	...	...
Speech Therapy	...	...
Dental	...	...

Expectant and nursing mothers may also receive free treatment at the Dental Clinics. Dental anæsthetics are given by the Medical Officer when required.

(d) *Ambulance Service.*

Acting as agents for the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society operate the Ambulance and Hospital Car Service in the County. Calls for an ambulance are made through the doctor or nurse in attendance on the case, or through the Police or public in case of accidents or other emergencies.

(e) *Health Education.*

The County Council are responsible for this service, a great amount of which is done by the Health Visitors both in the homes and at the Clinics.

(f) *Mental Health.*

The County Council is responsible for a domiciliary mental welfare service, but institutional and out-patient treatment is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

(g) *Home Help Service.*

This continued to be carried out very efficiently by the Women's Voluntary Service on behalf of the County Council.

Meals are provided and delivered to old people in their homes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, approximately 100 meals a week being delivered at a cost of 1/6d. per meal to the consumer.

Hospital and Specialists' Services

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances subject to appropriate charges.

Mass Radiography Units are stationed at Portsmouth and Brighton. A Mobile Unit also based at Portsmouth covers this area.

Chest Clinics are held at Worthing Hospital and at Aldingbourne Chest Hospital, both of which are available to the residents of Littlehampton.

Venereal Disease.

Residents may attend Clinics at Worthing Hospital, St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, or St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

General Medical and Dental Services

Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 175, Broyle Road, Chichester.

Laboratory Facilities

The following Laboratories are available for the examination of specimens:

The Public Health Laboratory, Brighton.

The Worthing Hospital Laboratory.

The Public Analyst's Laboratory, Lewes.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Byelaws relating to the public health have come into force during 1959.

PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

It was not necessary to take any action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1947.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Only nine houses are not supplied via the public mains. The latter convey the water from deep well boring in the Downs at Burpham. There is an ample supply of good quality water but chlorination is carried out as an additional safeguard.

Four samples were sent for chemical analysis, which showed a total hardness of 240 parts per million. This is a hard water.

Bacteriological samples:—

PUBLIC SUPPLY SYSTEM.	RESULT.
8 before chlorination.	Satisfactory.
23 after chlorination.	Satisfactory.

Extensions of mains during the year were as follows:—

Church Street—linking up St. Mary's Close, East	...	24 yds.
Helyers Green	...	522 yds.
Cornwall Road, South Side	...	24 yds.

Drainage and Sewerage

The extensions to the sewerage system of the area have been approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of soil sewers and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of surface water sewers.

Untreated sewage discharges through tanks into the river at a point about 80 yards beyond the wooden pier on the eastern bank.

Owing to a breakdown of the pumping station in the vicinity of the Globe Inn, sewage backed up in the system and fouled gardens in Seaton Road. The Council decided to instal a warning system so that it would be known that the pump was not working before the sewage had time to overflow and cause further nuisance.

Sanitary Accommodation

There are only three houses in the district without water closets. There are 120 properties on cesspool drainage.

Public Conveniences

The Council maintain public conveniences for ladies and gentlemen at the following places: Near the Council Offices; the Pier; Maltravers Recreation Ground; Norfolk Road; the Mewsbrook; North Street and Worthing Road. In addition, there are male conveniences near the Bridge and off the High Street, and a ladies' convenience in Beach Road. This makes 17 in all, eight ladies' and nine for gentlemen.

The ladies' convenience at Norfolk Road was replaced by a new building containing just the facilities which should be provided in a public convenience.

The two pail closets continued to be provided at the Cemetery.

Apart from being clean and well maintained, a Public Convenience should have adequate facilities for washing and drying the hands.

House Refuse

House refuse was collected weekly by the use of covered lorries, and the refuse disposed of by tipping on the West side of the River Arun.

Rivers and Streams

Observations are kept on the River Arun, as it passes through the town, to prevent offal and waste materials being thrown into the river.

Swimming Baths

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

Schools

There are seven Primary and Secondary schools in the district, but one school had to operate in two separate premises.

There are also six private schools.

The sanitary arrangements at all the schools are satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

During the year 4,378 inspections and visits have been made as follows:—

Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Refreshment Rooms, Restaurants and Cafes						...	93
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fishmongers including shellfish	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Food Preparation Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Grocers and Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Hotels (other than licensed)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Re Overcrowding under Housing Act, 1936					...	...	4
No. of Houses Inspected under Housing Acts					...	...	73
No. of Houses Re-visited under Housing Acts					...	...	32

Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Infectious Disease (including tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	227
Movable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Initial Inspections under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Re-visits under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	350
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Ditches, Streams and Rivers	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty or Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Re Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	2119
Meteorology	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	138

Notices Served

Outstanding Notices

At the end of 1959, 23 informal notices had not been complied with.

Complaints

During the year a total of 280 complaints were received in respect of the following matters:—

IMPROVEMENTS AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR

The following improvements have resulted from action taken by the Public Health Department:—

Houses

Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Repairs completed	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Lighting improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drains repaired/improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Water-closets—new provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water-closets repaired/improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rooms cleansed/redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Other improvements	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Food Premises

Hot water supply provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Washing facilities provided/improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Equipment, utensils, etc., cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cold stores provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Refuse disposal improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Sanitary accommodation provided/improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other improvements	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Shops

Sanitary accommodation repaired/cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Refuse accumulation removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

Factories

Cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary accommodation repaired/cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Refuse accumulation removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

1. INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	62	3	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	75	62	3	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:—					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences	1	1	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—	—

There are two Outworkers in the district (wearing apparel).

Movable Dwellings

There are six permanent sites for Movable Dwellings in Littlehampton. Five are situated on the West side of the River Arun and are licensed under the Public Health Act for a total of 39 trailer caravans.

The largest site is situated at the North of the district and is licensed for 100 tents and trailers.

All sites are provided with town's water, and water-closets or Elsan-closets.

At the close of the year work was in progress on the largest site to provide a complete watercarriage system of drainage to every caravan on the site.

Atmospheric Pollution

The problem of steel stack corrosion and smut emission has arisen from one oil-fired boiler installation. The difficulties and methods of effecting a cure have been discussed with the firm concerned.

No problems of smoke emission have arisen from vessels using the River Arun.

Disinfection

During the year 29 rooms have been disinfected.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

One hundred and twenty-three complaints, 108 in respect of rats and 15 in respect of mice, were received and dealt with during the year. In each case visits were paid until the rats or mice were exterminated. In all 1,410 visits were made.

The only major infestation of rats during the year was on the Council's Refuse Tip on the West side of the River Arun abutting Ferry Road.

Following an extensive survey of the complete site, a methodical baiting scheme was carried out and within two weeks the tip was completely free from rodent infestation.

Eighty-five bodies were found near to baiting points and in view of the type of bait used and the amount taken it was obvious that large numbers of rats had perished underground.

Permanent baits are maintained at selected points to ensure that no infestation again arises.

A free service is given in respect of private dwelling houses, but charges are made for business premises.

The following table shows statistics in respect of works carried out during 1959:—

Amount of Warfarin poison bait used during the year: $450\frac{1}{4}$ lb.

No. of properties treated:—

(a) for rats 203 (b) for mice 45

Class of Property	Rats	Mice
Council Property	27	2
Other Domestic Properties	126	30
Commercial and Industrial Premises ...	15	11
Vacant Land	35	2

SECTION D

HOUSING

During the year 6 Council Houses and 116 Private Houses were erected.

The Council proceeded with its Slum Clearance Programme and the following action was taken:—

No. of houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	11
No. of houses vacated	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of families rehoused	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of Closing Orders (part properties)	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of Closing Orders cancelled	...	...	...	...	...	1

The houses demolished were:—

22, 24, 26, Beaconsfield Road.

11, 13, 15, Horsham Road.

83, 85, 87, High Street.

Cartref, Ropewalk (2 chalets).

The following housing statistics are of interest in the development of the town:—

No. of Council Houses existing before the war	...	...	240
No. of Council Houses erected since the war	...	...	514
Total			754
No. of Private Houses built since 1948	...	...	507

Summary of Council Properties as at 31st Dec., 1959

		Pre-War	Post-War	Total
One bedroom Flats	...	...	18	18
Two bedroom Flats	...	...	137	137
Three bedroom Flats	...	...	18	18
One bedroom Bungalows	...	6	4	10
Two bedroom Bungalows	...	15	25	40
Three bedroom Bungalows	...	—	1	1
Two bedroom Houses	...	1	78	79
Three bedroom Houses	...	210	233	443
Four bedroom Houses	...	5	14	19
Five bedroom Houses	...	3	1	4
Houses taken over by the Council	—	—	—	4
Total		240	529	773

Thirty-two Pre-war Council Houses have baths and bathrooms, but are without adequate means of domestic hot water supply.

Waiting List for Housing Accommodation

Total number of applicants on waiting list for houses at							
31st December, 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	198
Total number of applications received during 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Total number of families re-housed during 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	21

SECTION E

FOOD HYGIENE

Inspection of Premises

Three hundred and fifty visits were made during the year to food premises in the district.

The number of food premises in the district is as follows:—

Restaurants and Cafés and Snack Bars...	56
Licensed Premises	23
Hotels and Guest Houses	85
Grocers	35
Greengrocers	15
Butchers	11
Wet Fish Shops	6
Fried Fish Shops	4
Ice Cream Premises	92
Bakehouses	2

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1959, is as follows:—

Sale and Storage of Ice Cream ...	91
Manufacture of Ice Cream ...	1
Sale of prepared Meats and Sausages ...	18
Fried Fish Shops	4

Milk and Dairies

There are four registered dairies in the district. The number of distributors under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959, is 12.

The number of visits made to dairies and distributors during the year was 79.

The following licences were granted during 1959 under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, viz.:—

Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation Tuberculin Tested	5
Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation Pasteurised	13
Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation Sterilised	6

Routine milk sampling was carried out throughout the year with the following results:—

Bacteriological Examination

One hundred and seven samples were taken and 105 returned a satisfactory result.

Biological Examination

Seventy-one samples of milk were taken during the year for biological examination. All were reported free from tubercle bacilli, but evidence suggestive of brucella abortus infection was found in 13 samples. Contact was made with the areas where the milk was produced so that the appropriate preventive action could be taken.

Ice Cream Premises

There are 91 premises registered for the sale and storage of ice cream in the district. One establishment only is registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

During the year four samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for grading. All the samples were classified as Grade I.

Inspection of Food

The following items were inspected during the year and found to be unfit for human consumption, viz. :—

9 tins meat and soup.	7 tins of crab.
27 tins beans and peas.	20 lbs. prawns.
18½ lbs. pork.	7 crates runner beans.
1 tin sheep livers.	2 cwt. Jersey potatoes.
24 salted ox tongues.	105 tins fruit and fruit juice.
11 tins milk and cream.	8 doz. whirls.
12 doz. scallops.	40 lbs. crispets.
1st. boiled crabs.	1 tin coffee.
10 packets frozen scampi.	4 packets cake mixture.
35¼ st. of fish.	1 jar marmalade.
17 tins of fish.	

SECTION F

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases

	Und. 1 year	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	2	9	—	—	—	13
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	4	—	—	1	8
Measles	1	11	11	26	5	1	—	55
Dysentery ...	—	9	4	15	—	4	4	36
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	13	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	2	—
Measles	55	4	—
Dysentery ...	36	18	—
Pneumonia ...	1	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality

No person died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified during life.

Age Periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	2	1	1	1	—	—	—

There were no cases of the following diseases, which are also notifiable:—

Cholera	Membranous Croup	Poliomyelitis
Diphtheria	Meningococcal	Relapsing Fever
Erysipelas	Infection	Smallpox
Encephalitis	Ophthalmia	Typhus
Enteric Fever		Neonatorum
Malaria	Plague	

There were three outbreaks of Dysentery during the year. Two occurred in one Convalescent Home in March and July, and the third occurred in another Convalescent Home in December.

The food poisoning was due to salmonella newport. The source of this was traced to cold meat purchased at a store in Bristol and consumed whilst on holiday at Weston-super-Mare.

IMMUNISATION

During the year 175 children completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria and 54 children received a reinforcing dose.

The number protected was less than the previous year. Although the last case of Diphtheria notified in the district was in 1947, it is essential that children should still be immunised in order to prevent the possibility of cases being notified.

The following table shows the decline in notifications of Diphtheria and deaths from the disease since the beginning of the century.

	1901-10	1911-20	1921-30	1931-40	1941-50	1951-59
No. cases notified	182	211	89	73	17	0
No. deaths	...	31	10	6	9	0

Poliomyelitis immunisation continued in the district and some factories took advantage of the offer of a visit from the Medical Officer of Health and a number of the 15-25 year-old age group were inoculated at their place of work.

Smallpox vaccination and immunisation against Whooping Cough are still necessary measures and these are usually carried out by general practitioners.

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1959
SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL STATISTICS

Month	1959	SUNSHINE (Hours)		RAINFALL (Inches)	
		Average for 45 years	1959	Average for 45 years	1959
January	101.6	66.7	3.37	3.04	
February	63.3	82.7	0.13	2.10	
March	143.0	139.4	2.02	1.78	
April	166.6	178.7	2.29	1.70	
May	279.7	228.3	0.39	1.82	
June	272.5	237.6	0.44	1.60	
July	336.2	223.9	1.15	2.12	
August	253.4	210.4	1.35	2.27	
September	251.0	163.2	0.12	2.34	
October	175.0	125.4	3.02	2.86	
November	64.4	74.8	3.67	3.25	
December	39.4	57.1	7.13	3.03	

	SUNSHINE			RAINFALL	
	No. of hours.	Daily Average.	No. of days on which sun was recorded.	No. of inches.	No. of days on which rain was recorded.
1923	1831.5	5.02	209	30.10	185
1924	1789.5	4.80	307	31.10	153
1925	1915.2	5.25	326	33.30	159
1926	1681.8	4.61	296	28.70	175
1927	1691.4	4.63	312	33.90	190
1928	1945.5	5.32	311	31.50	179
1929	2068.1	5.67	316	30.04	152
1930	1808.1	4.95	319	31.43	183
1931	1633.4	4.48	300	24.42	216
1932	1558.5	4.29	315	27.09	194
1933	2062.8	5.65	318	23.08	155
1934	1758.5	4.82	297	28.09	166
1935	1771.8	4.85	311	36.01	182
1936	1679.9	4.59	304	28.63	182
1937	1691.6	4.63	304	33.51	176
1938	1809.7	4.96	311	24.51	183
1939	1828.9	5.01	203	34.89	211
1940	1876.8	5.12	309	29.46	164
1941	1641.3	4.49	296	25.06	160
1942	1647.9	4.51	294	27.03	137
1943	1818.0	4.97	294	25.21	175
1944	1665.1	4.54	296	23.54	169
1945	1672.2	4.58	301	28.72	173
1946	1692.8	4.63	297	32.11	211
1947	1812.9	4.96	287	26.74	175
1948	1873.5	5.09	299	26.22	137
1949	2041.3	5.59	319	23.83	91
1950	1738.4	4.76	303	27.79	166
1951	1819.2	4.98	294	38.22	190
1952	1864.8	5.09	314	29.02	166
1953	1813.1	4.96	300	22.55	135
1954	1583.0	4.33	292	32.05	177
1955	1903.2	5.22	305	24.39	146
1956	1726.3	4.72	304	24.92	147
1957	1866.9	5.11	306	26.49	150
1958	1626.3	4.46	299	33.31	162
1959	2146.1	5.88	312	25.08	134